

# Smiley's Kentucky

VOLUME VIII.

HOPKINSVILLE, CHRISTIAN COUNTY KY., JULY 6, 1886.

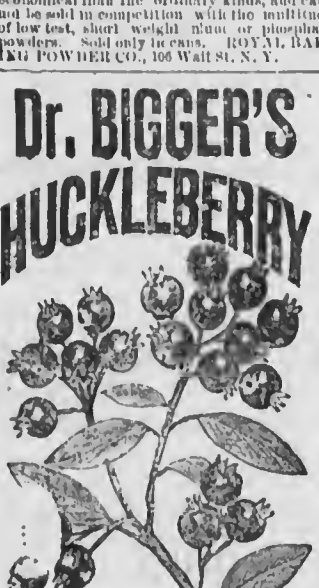
NUMBER 54

CHAS. M. MEACHAM. W. A. WILGUS.  
ISSUED EVERY TUESDAY AND FRIDAY  
MORNING BY  
**MEACHAM & WILGUS,**  
PUBLISHERS AND PROPRIETORS.

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Baking Powder  
Absolutely Pure.



**Dr. BIGGER'S**  
HUCKLEBERRY  
CORDIAL

**THE GREAT SOUTHERN REMEDY FOR ALL  
BOWEL TROUBLES  
AND CHILDREN TEETHING.**  
There are very few who do not know of this  
little bottle of Huckleberry Cordial, and  
its use is so simple and its effect so  
certain, that it is a household necessity.  
It is a powerful laxative, and its use  
is a sure cure for all cases of  
constipation, whether in adults or  
children. It is also a powerful  
stimulant, and its use is a sure  
cure for all cases of indigestion,  
loss of appetite, and general  
debility. It is a powerful  
diaphoretic, and its use is a sure  
cure for all cases of fever, and  
all other diseases of the bowels.  
It is a powerful  
expectorant, and its use is a sure  
cure for all cases of cough, and  
all other diseases of the lungs.  
It is a powerful  
antacid, and its use is a sure  
cure for all cases of heartburn,  
acid indigestion, and all other  
diseases of the stomach.  
It is a powerful  
antispasmodic, and its use is a sure  
cure for all cases of colic, and  
all other diseases of the bowels.  
It is a powerful  
antiseptic, and its use is a sure  
cure for all cases of dysentery,  
and all other diseases of the bowels.  
It is a powerful  
antidote, and its use is a sure  
cure for all cases of poisoning,  
and all other diseases of the bowels.  
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cure for all cases of poisoning,  
and all other diseases of the bowels.

**BUSINESS CARDS.**  
**A. P. Campbell,**  
DENTIST,  
HOPKINSVILLE, - - KY.  
Office over M. Frankel & Sons'.

**HENRY & PAYNE,**  
Attorneys and Counsellors at Law.  
Rear Room over Plaster's Bank.  
HOPKINSVILLE, KY.  
(17) Jan 1-85

**G. E. Medley,**  
DENTIST.  
Hopkinsville, Ky.  
Having taught at Dr. H. H. Hume's school of  
dentistry, and being a graduate of the  
Hopkinsville, Ky. School of Dentistry,  
I am qualified to give the best of  
dental service. My office is over  
Plaster's Bank, Hopkinsville, Ky.  
G. E. MEDLEY.

**BREATHITT & STITES,**  
Attorneys and Counsellors at Law,  
HOPKINSVILLE, - - KY.  
Office—No. 45 North Main Street.  
Feb. 2-86.

**Man and Beast.**  
Mustang Liniment is older than  
most men, and used more and  
more every year.

**Magnolia Balm**  
Is a secret aid to beauty.  
Many a lady owes her fresh-  
ness to it, who would rather  
not tell, and you can't tell.

**J. H. Hazzard,** Democratic bolter,  
has withdrawn from the race for  
Common Pleas Judge in the Mt.  
Sterling district in favor of Scott,  
the nominee.

**THE TRUTH ABOUT IT.**  
"Spring," sang the poet, "bubbling spring."  
Alas! the thought was wrong.  
For ice lay over where  
"Hail, Spring, with breezes soft and sweet."  
The Spring returned his hail!  
He gave a shower of snow and sleet  
Upon a winter day.  
"Sing, merry birds, in bush and tree."  
He read the almanac:  
The birds were wiser far than he,  
And did not hurry back.  
"Sing, gentle," here he ceased to sing.  
Let him and truth be told:  
The while he sang of bubbling spring,  
He caught no more of cold.  
—Mrs. M. P. Handy, in Century Magazine.

**SLEEPING-CAR SPOTTERS.**  
How They Bring Unwary Conduc-  
tors to Sudden Grief.

Not a hundred yards from Grand  
Central depot is a saloon largely fre-  
quented by railroad employees, and es-  
pecially by sleeping-car conductors,  
who, as a rule, indulge in fancy drinks  
of first quality and display a very fas-  
tious taste. A reporter happened the  
other night to stroll into this resort  
and across an acquaintance whose oc-  
cupation consists in shadowing sus-  
pected conductors.

"You desire, then, to learn about  
the secret service on railroads," com-  
menced the detective, after a conversa-  
tion in the course of which such a de-  
sire had been expressed. "Well, those  
sleeping-car conductors we saw just  
now in the saloon afford excellent  
specimens for observation. The tempta-  
tion to knock down fares is great, yet  
it is altogether different now from  
what it used to be in the olden times.  
Some fifteen or twenty years ago a  
conductor's berth was worth quite as  
much as a seat in the Stock Exchange  
or a sheriff's appointment, but those  
days have had their day and it takes  
a great amount of sharp practice to  
keep the vigilance of a spotter.  
However, to present a correct idea of  
the clever detective work carried on in  
this unique line, it would be as well  
to give you a thorough insight into the  
business.

"Now, then, the Pullman Palace Car  
Company on several occasions found it  
necessary to employ a corps of detec-  
tives to watch some conductors on  
whom suspicion had crystallized, and in  
most instances conclusive proof, show-  
ing a systematic robbery, was fur-  
nished. The disloyal employees re-  
solved, of course, to make a bold  
move, and new men were selected to fill the  
vacancies, and still it was apparent that  
heavy deceptions continued to be  
carried on. The case could only be  
explained in a way exceedingly dis-  
paraging to human nature, but a detective  
who had been assigned on the work  
for some length of time and thus  
gained considerable experience, based  
on close observation, ventured to make  
a bold assertion impeaching the honest-  
ness of nearly all conductors. He sug-  
gested, consequently, to organize an  
elite corps of railroad detectives, es-  
pecially picked to meet the require-  
ments of that particular service, and  
subject the men to an incessant and  
rigid vigilance. His suggestion was  
adopted, and a corps of detectives was  
established in this city, and although  
the extra running expenses incurred  
by the service are quite heavy, there is  
no doubt but many thousands of dollars  
have been saved for the company.  
While the detective corps was being  
organized, however, the Pullman Palace  
employees encountered a severe restraint  
by the constant fear of detection and  
disgrace.

"You think that long service has  
hardened my judgment and I am wrong  
in considering the majority of conduc-  
tors more or less dishonest. I sug-  
gest, consequently, to organize an  
elite corps of railroad detectives, es-  
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abiding place whatever. The interest  
of the service requires a continuous  
shifting around with the men from one  
road to another in order to reduce as  
much as possible the chances of attach-  
ing suspicion to the conductors and  
railroad employees in general. It is  
thus a usual thing for a spotter to travel  
through every State in the Union in the  
course of a few months, and his work  
is really harder than that of most other  
occupations. Naturally he must assume  
different roles to meet any emergency  
and throw off suspicion. You find him  
posing as a land speculator, insurance  
agent, merchant, missionary, gambler,  
newspaper man or politician, all ac-  
cording to the particular job on hand  
and the character of the section through  
which he travels.

"The general course is to assign one  
agent to each car, thus checking every  
passenger, but the entire registration  
must be done mentally. The art con-  
sists in evincing the least possible con-  
cern, and the spotter should always  
have a straight story to tell when he  
engages in conversation with other  
passengers or 'picks' of the conductor.  
At the end of each trip the detective  
makes out an elaborate report covering  
a certain car and sends it to head-  
quarters, where it is compared with the  
conductor's balance sheet. The spotter  
is frequently instructed to pay cash  
fines himself, and the most conclusive  
proof is derived by holding out the  
tempting bait in such a manner as to  
entrap the conductor. When the evi-  
dence is found to be of a very dan-  
gerous character all formalities are dis-  
posed with and his walking papers  
served at once. Nevertheless there are  
some shrewd conductors who manage  
to elude detection in spite of all  
vigilance. They play a game, and a  
trifling tact through which the presence  
of a so-called Hawkshaw is revealed.  
The conductors, without exception, en-  
tertain a bitter hatred to the detective  
service, and in this age of dynamite  
an agent of road force is a dangerous  
man. It is rather surprising that no at-  
tempt has been made to blow up the  
spotter headquarters. Vengeance has  
been thought, been executed on several  
of our men out in the Territories,  
where the public, as a rule, is as im-  
pathetic to the conductors, and reckless  
in the sport of hunting down an un-  
wary spotter.

"A favorite scheme with the con-  
ductors is occasionally to turn in a fare  
or two in excess of the number really  
collected, for the purpose of creating  
an impression upon the company that  
the spotter's report is untrue, and that  
at all times. Now and then the train  
employees suspect an entirely innocent  
person, and it is amusing to see the  
puzzled look of such a passenger when  
he encounters the strange looks be-  
stowed upon him by conductor and  
porter. The mutual interest existing  
between these functionaries tends to  
overcome any prejudice, and they  
quickly get on the track of the  
train's swarms. One way, prac-  
ticed with a view to extending a secret  
warning to colleagues on the different  
lines, is to cut a notch in the back of  
the supposed spotter's shoes while the  
porter ostensibly subjects them to a  
first-class shine. Identification is by  
this and other devices made quite easy,  
and the further use of the shown up  
detective is seriously impaired.

"The unwary traveler on entering a  
palace sleeping-car is likely to become  
impressed with the notion that an air  
of distinguished respectability is per-  
vading every visible object alike.  
Whether he may cherish the idea to  
the end of his journey, or not, the  
passengers are somewhat ruffled, de-  
pends largely upon the conductor's  
talent to manage each party to de-  
ference to their particular wants. Shady  
individuals, professional gamblers, etc.,  
are, of course, not permitted to operate  
upon the trains, but a smart conductor  
can arrange 'such things to suit all  
parties concerned when he is discreetly  
recompensed, and consequently, you  
might make an interesting study in the  
highly art of high-class 'joker' if  
you happen to drop into the smoking-  
saloon of a sleeper after eleven p. m.

"The professional spotter has to keep  
an eye on all transactions of this kind,  
and his report affords frequently some  
very spicy reading. There are, besides,  
a number of other duties he is required  
to perform, such as observing whether  
all tickets and checks are properly can-  
celed, noting the condition of our  
closets, paying attention to the conduct  
of train employees—if they should sleep,  
drink or smoke or even profess to be  
asleep. Sometimes it is next to im-  
possible to catch a conductor, although  
suspicious rests upon him, and a detec-  
tive is then put to show the man  
in order to learn his habits, compan-  
ions and general conduct in private life.  
Through this source very valuable tes-  
timony is often procured and circum-  
stantial evidence furnished, showing  
the suspected party to be a disloyal fel-  
low, spending much more than his salary  
would justify at the gambling table  
in dissipation. Yes, the spotter system  
is a big thing, and you can't afford to  
disparage it as long as a sordid greed  
for money remains the pivot of human  
nature." —N. Y. Herald.

**REMARKABLE RUINS.**  
Discovery of Prehistoric Ruins in the State  
of Sonora.  
The Chihuahua (Mexico) Enterprise  
reports the discovery of some remark-  
able ancient ruins on a hill or mountain  
four leagues south of Magdalena, in  
Sonora. The hill is about 700 feet high,  
and half way up there is a layer of  
gypsum, which is as white as snow, and  
may be cut into any conceivable shape,  
yet sufficiently hard to retain its shape  
after being out. In this layer of stone  
are cut hundreds upon hundreds of  
rooms from 6x10 to 16x18 feet square.  
So even and true are the walls, floor  
and ceiling, so plain and level as to  
defy variation. There are no windows  
in the rooms and but one entrance,  
which is always from the top. The  
rooms are but eight feet high from floor  
to ceiling, the stone is so white that it  
seems almost transparent, and the floor  
is not at all dark. On the walls of  
these rooms are numerous hieroglyph-  
ic and pictorial representations of human  
beings in stone in different places, but  
strange to say, all the hands have five  
fingers and a thumb, and the feet have  
six toes. Chacareo is found on the  
floor of many of the rooms; implements  
of every description are to be found.  
The houses or rooms are one above the  
other to three or four stories high, but  
between each story there is a jagged  
or recess the full width of the room below  
so that they present the appearance of  
large steps leading up the mountain.

"In no part of the Southern hemisphere  
is there a population increasing so  
rapidly as in Sydney. In 1870 the  
population of the city and its suburbs  
was about 140,000; at the close of 1881  
it was estimated at 290,000, having  
more than doubled in fifteen years.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

—The *Alta California's* advice on the  
Chinese question: "Go slow and drive  
in the middle of the road."

—John Pierce, a Paterson black-  
smith, and three helpers the other day  
slew 135 horses "all around." That  
means that the four men handled 540  
feet and shot them. —N. Y. Sun.

—The largest barn in the world is  
probably that of the Union Cattle Com-  
pany, of Cheyenne, Nebraska. It  
covers an area, cost \$125,000 and ac-  
commodates 3,750 head of cattle.

—A California Chinaman recently  
ran away with another Chinaman's  
wife, and, to throw the pursuers off the  
trail, took her aboard a steamboat rolled  
up in blankets, carrying her on his  
shoulder.

—The petrified skeleton of a whale  
over thirty feet long has been dis-  
covered by an officer of the Coast Sur-  
vey in a range of mountains in Monterey  
County, Cal., over thirty-three hundred  
feet above the sea level.

—Artificial sponge made of cotton,  
rendered absorbent and treated with  
antiseptics, has been invented in Eng-  
land. A piece of the size of a walnut  
has absorbed water until it reached the  
size of a coconut. It is so cheap that  
it could be used for all purposes.

—French proof-readers in the Gov-  
ernment office are paid \$1.00 per week;  
machine men, \$1.75 to \$2.25 per day;  
bookbinders and pressmen, \$1.00 to  
\$1.25 per day, and type-founders, \$9.25  
per day; lithographers, \$16.25 per day.

—A young man of Leadville, exam-  
ple of a young married woman of the  
same town, made arrangements to  
elope with her. Each thought the other  
rich. The inability or unwillingness  
of each to buy the railroad tickets to  
San Francisco caused a postponement  
of their plans and another home is not  
broken up. —Denver Tribune.

—A learned Berlin professor has  
given to the world the information of  
what makes a "merry twinkle." It is  
caused by a peculiar brilliancy of move-  
ment of the lids, the orbicular palpebrae  
and the muscles around the eye.  
The new reading of "Twinkle, little  
star," would then be: "Aberrant-like  
movement of the lids, the orbicular  
palpebrae and the parts around the  
eye, diminutive satellite." —Rockester  
Post-Express.

—Overhead in a street car: First  
lady—Why, you know, dear, my hus-  
band is too forgetful for anything.  
Why, do you know, when he goes out  
he really don't remember where he is  
going. Second lady—Well, all men  
are alike. They forget a home and  
half the time they forget where they  
are going. First lady (to conductor)  
—Stop at College street, please. Con-  
ductor—Two blocks back, madam. —  
New Haven News.

—If the populous and fertile region  
known as Wyoming County, N. Y., is  
not shortly transferred into a bona  
fide State, it will be the default of Mr.  
Samuel Wolcott, an enterprising citi-  
zen of Arcade, who proposes to start a  
skunk ranch. The animals will be  
raised on an extensive scale for their  
flesh, which brings a high price in the  
market. Mr. Wolcott has already ob-  
tained one hundred breeders, and the  
business is expected to prove very re-  
munerative. A skunkery has at least  
this advantage over a chicken farm,  
that no one will, in all probability, at-  
tempt to steal the skunks from their  
perches at night. —Buffalo Express.

—It is not surprising that Mrs. Wil-  
helmina Brown, of Louisville, Ky.,  
should have been disgusted when she  
learned that her daughter Ellen had  
clipped with a newspaper man; but she  
should not have permitted herself to be  
so far overcome with grief as to light  
a fire in the range and then lie down  
upon it. Such a proceeding could not  
have removed the stain from the honor  
of the Brown family, even if Mrs. B.  
had succeeded in roasting herself. But,  
if fortune should favor her, and a  
neighbor came in and took her of the  
stove. At latest accounts her pros-  
pects of recovery were fair to middling.  
—Louisville Courier-Journal.

—Mr. Alford married during the  
second year of the war. He only  
had \$1.80 to start out with, and this he  
lost the way he got it. His father was a  
mechanic and was gone all the week  
at his work. When he came home  
every Saturday night he gave each of  
his children a five-cent piece. James  
had a disposition to say, "I lost this  
piece of timber and bored a hole in it  
to let the half-dimensions and every one  
his father gave him but in this unique  
savings bank. He kept this plan up  
until he married. Upon investigation  
he found he had saved \$1.80. With  
the battle of the year farmer began  
the battle of life. To-day he is worth  
over \$10,000. —Hartford (Ga.) Sun.

**A CURIOUS BANK.**  
The Treasure Trove Found by a Penna-  
vania Carpenter.  
Some years ago, an old wooden  
bridge spanned the Schuylkill river at  
the foot of Penna street, Reading, Pa.  
In the course of time a more substan-  
tial structure was deemed necessary,  
and the timbers of the old bridge were  
carefully taken apart, and reserved for  
use in repairing and rebuilding the  
smaller county bridges. While pre-  
paring some of this old timber for its  
new use, a few days ago, it became  
necessary to saw off several feet from  
a heavy piece, which was to be used as  
a support for a bridge under con-  
struction. When the end portion was  
dropped to the ground, the workman  
was astonished to hear a jingling sound  
as of gold and silver coin. A sum-  
mons of such good omen assured  
a special investigation, which re-  
sulted in finding eagles, half  
eagles, silver dollars, halves and  
quarters mixed together in careless  
confusion. The source of supply was  
found in a section about eight inches  
in length and five inches deep, which  
had been hollowed out of the log with  
auger and chisel. An inch-thick cover  
had been fitted over the opening so  
cleverly and sealed with so much care  
that detection, but for an accidental  
discovery, would have been impos-  
sible. The treasure was not a  
hoard of gold, but a mass of silver  
money, the value of the deposit, though re-  
ported to be considerable, was not  
made public. The money was probably  
hidden away a number of years ago,  
specimens of three, five, ten, twenty-  
five and fifty cent scrip, nicely folded  
up in a piece of writing paper, were  
among the contents. Not a line in-  
dicated the ownership. The question of  
possession is consequently divided as to  
whether it should go to the workman  
who discovered it, the owner of the  
timber, or the county. The latter prob-  
ably inclines to the first suggestion.  
—Scientific American.

## THE OAT CROP.

It Can Be Raised to Perfection in the  
Mountain Regions of the South.  
The earth was given to man as an in-  
heritance which he was to subdue and  
cultivate. The word subdue implies  
antagonism, and this related to soil and  
climate both. The soil given to weeds  
in preference, naturally, to useful plants,  
and the most valuable crops have to  
 contend with unfavorable climatic con-  
ditions. The farmer has to meet and  
 contend with and vanquish most of  
 these difficulties, and in this respect the  
 oat crop gives him more trouble than al-  
 most any other, for it is poorly  
 adapted to the American climate, and  
 yet it is one of the most valuable to the  
 farmer. In its most favorable climate  
 and soil the oat vicia with barley in  
 weight and substance and surpasses it in  
 yield. In Ireland and Scotland, where  
 the climate is cool and the summers are  
 long, giving a lengthened season of  
 growth, and where the rainfall is large  
 and continuous, this grain grows to per-  
 fection, reaching a weight of fifty  
 pounds to the measured bushel and a  
 yield of eighty bushels to the acre. Be-  
 sides this, its vigor of growth and its  
 hardiness are such that it retains this  
 weight and yield in our adverse climate  
 for at least one or two years, and for  
 longer when it is grown under the most  
 favorable circumstances. It is thus one  
 of the best grains for the farmer to ex-  
 tend his care and skill upon, because it  
 is one of the most valuable crops he can  
 produce.

As regards soil the oat is by no means  
 exacting. It does best upon a cool,  
 moist, sandy loam, but it will thrive  
 upon any soil if the farmer is well pre-  
 pared for it. It pays well for liberal  
 manuring, and thrives best with a com-  
 post in which decayed vegetable matter  
 is abundant or in fall-plowed soil  
 ground. It does well on peaty soils and  
 newly reclaimed meadow land. But it  
 must be sown early in the spring or it  
 will fail to make a satisfactory crop,  
 and this is the point to which attention  
 should be directed. Early sowing is  
 required for two reasons. One is to se-  
 cure the longest possible growing season  
 necessary for the proper development  
 of the plant, and the other is to afford  
 the requisite coolness as far as possible.  
 It is impossible to sow oats early enough  
 to get a good crop on spring-plowed  
 land. The land should be plowed in the  
 fall and put in the right condition for  
 seeding, as if it were to be sown at that  
 time. It is to leave the furrows as they  
 have been turned as even and regular as  
 possible. In the spring the seed may  
 be sown upon the soil so left as soon  
 as the upper four inches are free  
 from frost and are dry. This generally  
 happens in March in the Northern  
 States and in February in the South. A  
 harrowing, or working with a culti-  
 vator, which does the best work,  
 across the furrows covers the  
 seed deeply and evenly, and the  
 sun's warmth above and the cool-  
 ness below furnish precisely the best  
 conditions for the successful growth of  
 the young plant. If this golden op-  
 portunity is lost the sowing will be  
 delayed a month or more, for the soil  
 will be too wet and soft when the frost  
 has entirely gone, or rains will occur, or  
 the land will be too dry to insure germina-  
 tion, or the seed will be so covered by  
 the heaviest of the coldest weather, and our  
 American sower, leaping from the  
 lap of winter without any intervening  
 spring, gives no opportunity for this  
 grain to make its requisite slow growth.

The excessive heat following a late  
 season brings on rust, or if the plant es-  
 capes this danger the dryness and the  
 forced rapid growth prevent the filling  
 of the grain, which is then light and  
 chaffy. This is especially noticeable  
 in the Southern States, where with suit-  
 able management this crop might be  
 grown with much success, but where it  
 rarely produces grain of more than  
 twenty-five pounds to the bushel under  
 the prevailing method of growing it,  
 which is to sow it in the fall and subject  
 it to all the disadvantages of an open  
 Southern winter.

We have known a crop of spring-sown  
 Scotch oats, the seed imported weighing  
 fifty-one pounds to the measured bushel,  
 to produce more than six bushels of  
 grain to the acre, measured, and the grain  
 weighed forty-eight pounds to the bushel.  
 This seed was sown in February  
 against the urgent remonstrances of a  
 neighboring farmer, who averred that  
 the oats could never ripen in the  
 crop in the South. The oats were en-  
 tirely free from rust except in a small  
 portion of the field for which no manure  
 could be procured. Here the straw stood  
 eighteen inches high only, while on the  
 best of the soil it was six feet high,  
 and some of the heads were twenty  
 inches in length. Indeed, the  
 mountain region of the South is pecu-  
 liarly well adapted for growing oats to  
 perfection, because of the early sowing  
 possible and the long, cool, growing  
 season, and this large and favored dis-  
 trict might easily be made the granary  
 for this crop for the South States, and  
 produce seed equal to the best that is  
 imported if the farmers there would  
 turn their attention to it.

One necessity for this crop is a well-  
 manured soil. It is supposed to be easy  
 on the land, and so is made to follow  
 corn in the common rotation. But a  
 crop which contains two per cent.  
 of nitrogen and the ash of which has six-  
 teen per cent. of potash and twenty-  
 per cent. of phosphoric acid, and is  
 therefore two-thirds as exhaustive of the  
 soil as so much wheat, can not justly be  
 considered as easy on the land. On the  
 contrary, it is far too exacting in the  
 soil, and it must be grown successfully  
 with corn and without any manure,  
 and with the very inadequate and hurried  
 preparation given to it as a rule and the  
 usual tardy sowing. This crop is too  
 valuable to be slighted in the prevailing  
 rotation, and it demands more care  
 for the most careful cultivation and this  
 should be based on my accurate knowl-  
 edge of its natural habits and neces-  
 sities, and in addition to this the seed  
 should be most carefully selected. —  
Henry Stewart, in N. Y. Times.

Dinner was nearly over at Soton  
 Hall College, at South Ormeau, when  
 Prefect Daniel Clancy lunched back in  
 his chair and said good-naturedly:  
 "I had a strange dream last night, gen-  
 tlemen. I thought the college was de-  
 stroyed by fire. They say dreams go  
 by opposites. But at any rate the boys  
 will have a holiday, for some cause or  
 other very short." As the sun set  
 down behind the Ormeau mountains  
 Prefect Clancy saw his dream fulfilled.  
 —N. Y. Herald.

The new railway route to Norfolk,  
 down the eastern shore of Chesapeake  
 bay, requires a long trestle across  
 the lower part of the bay. Some time  
 ago half a dozen loaded freight cars  
 were lost from a barge in rough weather,  
 and, though a wrecking expedition had  
 been making diligent search, no trace  
 whatever has been found of either car  
 or freight, which were, perhaps, drifted  
 out to sea by the tide. —Hartford Cour-  
 ant.

## A NARROW ESCAPE.

How a Harrietist Was Saved From the At-  
 tack of a Midnight Burglar.  
I had a very thrilling experience the  
 other evening. I had just filled an en-  
 gagement in a strange city and retired  
 to my cosy room at the hotel.

The thunders of applause had died  
 away, and the opera house had been  
 locked up to await the arrival of an  
 Uncle Tom's Cabin company. The last  
 lotterer had returned to his home, and  
 the lights in the palace of the pork  
 packer were extinguished.

No sound was heard save the low,  
 tremulous swash of the sheet outside,  
 or the death rattle in the throat of the  
 bath tub. Then all was still as the  
 bosom of a fried chicken when the  
 spirit has departed.  
 The swallow-tail coat hung limp and  
 weary in the wardrobe, and the gross  
 receipts for the evening were under my  
 pillow. I needed sleep, for I was  
 worn out with travel and anxiety, but  
 the fear of being robbed kept me from  
 repose. I knew how desperate a man  
 becomes when he hears for another's  
 gold. I know how cupidly drives a  
 wicked man to mangle his victim that  
 he may win precarious prosperity, and  
 how he will often take a short cut to  
 wealth by means of murder, when, if  
 he would enter politics, he might ac-  
 complish his purpose as surely and  
 much more safely.

Anon, however, tired nature suc-  
 cumbed. I knew I had succumbed,  
 for the bell-boy afterward testified that  
 he heard me do so.

The gentle warmth of the steam-heated  
 room and the comforting assurance  
 of duty well done and the approval of  
 friends, at last lulled me into a gentle  
 repose.

Any one who might have looked  
 upon me as I lay there in that innocent  
 slumber with the winsome mouth  
 slightly ajar, and the playlet limbs  
 cast wistfully about, while a merry snarl  
 now and then broke across my regular  
 features, would have said that no heart  
 could be so hard as to harbor ill for one  
 so guileless and simple.

I do not know what it was that  
 caused me to wake. Some slight sound  
 or other must have broken my slumber,  
 and I opened my eyes wildly. The  
 room was in semi-darkness.

A slight movement in the corner,  
 and the low, regular breathing of a  
 human being. I was now wide awake.  
 Possibly I could have opened my  
 eyes wider, but not without polling them  
 out of their sockets.

Regularly came that soft, low breath-  
 ing. I knew it seemed like a sigh of  
 relief, but it did not relieve me.  
 Evidently it was not done for that pur-  
 pose. It sounded like a sigh of blessed  
 relief, such as a woman might have  
 uttered after she has returned from church  
 and transferred herself from the embrace of  
 her new Russian iron, black silk dress  
 into a friendly wrapper.

Regularly, like the rise and fall of a  
 wave on the summer sea, it rose and fell,  
 while my pale lambrequin of hair rose  
 and fell fitfully with it.

I knew that people who read this will  
 laugh at it, but there was nothing to  
 laugh at. At first I feared that the  
 slight might be that of a woman who had  
 entered the room through a transom in  
 order to do me, as laytrap I sum-  
 mer, and then carrying the picture away  
 toadden her whole life.

But no. That was hardly possible.  
 It was unlikely that had driven some  
 cruel villain to enter my apartments  
 in order to commit the ghastly deed.  
 The proper moment should come in which  
 to spring upon me, should me, crowd a  
 hotel pillow into each long, and, while I  
 lay in the desecrated act, rob me  
 of my hard-earned wealth.

The regular rise and fall of the soft breath-  
 ing, though the robber might be try-  
 ing to suppress it. I reached gently  
 under the pillow, and, securing the  
 money, I put in the pocket of my robe  
 do not. Then with great care I pulled  
 out a copy of the Standard and the  
 work on "How to Ventilate the Human  
 Form." I said to myself that I would  
 sell my life as dearly as possible, so that  
 whoever bought it would always regret  
 the trade.

Then I opened the volume at the first  
 chapter and addressed a thirty-eight-  
 centaire remark in the direction of the  
 breath in the corner.  
 When the echoes had died away in a  
 sigh of relief welled up from the dark  
 corner. Also another sigh of relief  
 later on.

However, I lit the gas with my left  
 hand and kept my revolver pointed  
 toward the dark corner where the breath  
 was still rising and falling.  
 People who had heard my lecture  
 came rushing in, hoping to find that I  
 had succeeded, but they found that in-  
 stead of humoring the public in that  
 way, I had shot the valve off the steam  
 radiator.

It is humiliating to write the forego-  
 ing myself, but I would rather do so  
 than have the affair garbled by careless  
 hands. —Bill Nye, in Boston Globe.

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